General Assembly

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Sixty-third session
Agenda item 124

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/63/786)*]

63/272. Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2008 and programme of work for 2009

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 31/192 of 22 December 1976, 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999, 55/230 of 23 December 2000, 56/245 of 24 December 2001, 57/284 A and B of 20 December 2002, 58/286 of 8 April 2004, 59/267 of 23 December 2004, 60/258 of 8 May 2006, 61/238 of 22 December 2006, 61/260 of 4 April 2007, 62/226 of 22 December 2007 and 62/246 of 3 April 2008,

Reiterating that the impact of the Unit on the cost-effectiveness of activities within the United Nations system is a shared responsibility of the Member States, the Unit and the secretariats of the participating organizations,

Reaffirming the commitment by the Unit, the legislative organs and the secretariats of the participating organizations to implement a system of follow-up to the recommendations of the Unit, as set out in resolution 54/16,

Reaffirming also the statute of the Unit[1] and the unique role of the Unit as the only external and independent system-wide inspection, evaluation and investigation body,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2008 and programme of work for 2009[2] and the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Unit for 2008,[3]

1. *Recalls* its resolutions 61/260, 62/226 and 62/246;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2008 and programme of work for 2009;[2]

3. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[3]

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[1] Resolution 31/192, annex.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 34* and corrigendum (A/63/34 and Corr.1).

[3] A/63/731.

4. *Affirms* that oversight is a shared responsibility of Member States, the organizations and the internal and external oversight bodies;

5. *Welcomes* progress in the reform process of the Unit and its improved collaboration with participating organizations and other oversight bodies, and invites the Unit to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on measures taken in this regard;

6. *Acknowledges* the Unit's undertaking to apply results-based management in its work;

7. *Requests* the Unit, in line with its mandate, to continue to focus its work and reports on system-wide issues of interest and relevance to the participating organizations and the States Members of the United Nations and to provide advice on ways to ensure the avoidance of duplication and more efficient and effective use of resources in implementing the mandates of the Organization;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the executive heads of the participating organizations to fully comply with the statutory procedures for consideration of the reports of the Unit and, in particular, to submit their comments and to distribute reports in time for their consideration by legislative organs;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the other executive heads of the participating organizations to fully assist the Unit with the timely provision of all information requested by it;

10. *Reiterates its invitation* to the legislative organs of the participating organizations to take concrete action on the recommendations of the Unit;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to expedite the implementation of the present resolution, including through the expected provision of support to the Unit by the secretariats of the participating organizations in the preparation of its reports, notes and confidential letters, and the consideration of and action on the Unit's recommendations in the light of pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report to the Assembly on an annual basis on the results achieved;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the Unit to report on the impacts of its recommendations, as illustrated in chapter I, section E, of its annual report,[2] and in this context requests the Unit, in coordination with participating organizations, to provide information on the improvement of the presentation of those impacts and their financial implications, wherever possible, in future annual reports;

13. *Invites* the Unit, in this context, to include in its annual report information on its experience in the implementation of the follow-up system by the participating organizations, and in this regard requests the Unit to continue working towards implementation of a web-based follow-up system to monitor the status of recommendations and receive updates from individual organizations;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of its resolution 62/246, and encourages the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Chief Executives Board, to continue enhancing the dialogue of the Board with the Unit, including, where appropriate, through the invitation to participate in the meetings of its Committees and networks;

15. *Welcomes* the coordination of the Unit with the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat, and encourages those bodies to continue sharing experiences, knowledge, best practices and lessons learned with other United Nations audit and oversight bodies as well as with the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite the appointment of the Executive Secretary of the Joint Inspection Unit after consultation with the Unit and the Chief Executives Board, in full accordance with article 19 of the statute of the Unit[1] as well as the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly regarding staff selection;

17. *Acknowledges* the undertaking by the Unit of a medium- and long-term strategy approach for 2010–2019, as contained in annex III to its report, stresses the need for the Unit to continuously update and improve its medium- and long-term strategy for 2010–2019, taking into account the dynamics and challenges of the environment in which it undertakes its activities, and decides to consider any resources associated with the implementation of the medium- and long-term strategy approach in the context of future programme budgets;

18. *Encourages* the Unit to keep the General Assembly informed, if necessary, about any difficulty or delay in obtaining visas for the official travel of the inspectors, as well as members of its secretariat.

79th plenary meeting
7 April 2009